

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 9238
INFO AMEMBASSY OTTAWA
AMEMBASSY SEOUL
AMEMBASSY TOKYO

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE MOSCOW 05066

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: EFIS, UR, US, JA, CA
SUBJECT: SOVIETS INVITE SECRETARY KREPS TO PARTICIPATE
IN INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON PACIFIC SALMON

REF: TOKYO 3648

1. ON EVENING MARCH 17 EMBASSY RECEIVED LETTER FROM
MINISTER OF FISHERIES ISHKOV (DATED MARCH 10) TO SECRE-
TARY OF COMMERCE KREPS, WHICH INVITES HER TO PARTICIPATE
IN CONFERENCE ON PACIFIC SALMON IN MOSCOW DURING SECOND
HALF OF 1978, ALONG WITH MINISTERS DEALING WITH
FISHERIES MATTERS FROM CANADA AND JAPAN. TEXT OF ISHKOV
LETTER FOLLOWS PARA THREE BELOW (ORIGINAL POUCH TO
EUR/SOV EDGAR, REGISTRY NO. 952733).

2. WE WILL BE CONSULTING WITH OUR CANADIAN AND
JAPANESE COLLEAGUES ON THIS MATTER NEXT WEEK AND
WE WILL ALSO SEEK TO ELICIT MORE DETAILS ON PROPOSED
CONFERENCE FROM MINISTRY OF FISHERIES. WE WOULD
WELCOME TOKYO'S COMMENTS ON POSSIBLE RELATION OF
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PROPOSED CONFERENCE TO ON-GOING SOVIET-JAPANESE
SALMON TALKS. FROM THIS VANTAGE POINT, HOWEVER, IT
APPEARS THAT U.S. MAY WISH TO DELAY RESPONSE AT
LEAST UNTIL SOVIET-JAPANESE SALMON FISHING TALKS ARE
COMPLETED SINCE THE SOVIETS MIGHT BE CONSIDERING
POSSIBILITY OF USING U.S. ACCEPTANCE AS A PRETEXT

TO FORBID JAPANESE SALMON FISHING, ON THE GROUNDS
THAT MULTI-LATERAL DISCUSSIONS ARE UNDERWAY. IT ALSO
APPEARS TO US THAT THE SOVIET INVITATION IS PITCHED
RATHER HIGH, AND THAT A U.S. DELEGATION LED BY HEAD
OF NOAA OR NMFS WOULD MORE CLOSELY CORRESPOND TO THE
SOVIET MINISTER OF FISHERIES, SHOULD THE U.S. DECIDE
TO ACCEPT THE SOVIET INVITATION.

3. BEGIN TEXT:

MOSCOW, MARCH 10, 1978

DEAR MRS. SECRETARY,

THE RADICAL CHANGES IN THE LEGAL REGIME OF THE WORLD
OCEAN TAKEN PLACE DURING RECENT TIME HAVE GIVEN
RISE TO THE NECESSITY FOR ESTABLISHMENT AND DEVELOP-
MENT OF COOPERATION, ESPECIALLY, BETWEEN THOSE
COUNTRIES WHOSE INTERESTS ARE CONSIDERABLY AND
CLOSELY ADJOINED.

FOR THE SOVIET UNION AND EQUALLY FOR THE USA, CANADA
AND JAPAN CONSERVATION AND REPRODUCTION OF SALMON
INHABITING THE NORTHERN PART OF PACIFIC OCEAN ARE
OF AN EXTREMELY IMPORTANT VALUE.

IN THIS CONNECTION, I WOULD LIKE, ON BEHALF OF MY
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GOVERNMENT TO INVITE YOU, MRS. SECRETARY, AS WELL
AS MINISTERS FROM CANADA AND JAPAN DEALING WITH
FISHERIES MATTERS TO PARTICIPATE IN THE WORKING
MEETING TO CONSIDER PACIFIC SALMON PROBLEMS. WE
SUGGEST TO HOLD SUCH A MEETING OF MINISTERS IN
MOSCOW IN THE SECOND HALF OF 1978.

I WOULD BE VERY GRATEFUL FOR THE ACCEPTANCE OF MY
INVITATION AND FOR HAVING ME INFORMED OF MEETING
DATES CONVENIENT TO YOU.

YOURS FAITHFULLY,

A. A. ISHKOV
MINISTER OF FISHERIES OF THE USSR.

END TEXT. TOON

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NNN

*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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